

**To:** CN=Richard Sumner/OU=COR/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]  
**Cc:** CN=Karen Schwinn/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA@EPA;CN=Tom Hagler/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Erin Foresman/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA@EPA;CN=Jason Brush/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Paul Jones/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; N=Tom Hagler/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Erin Foresman/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA@EPA;CN=Jason Brush/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Paul Jones/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; N=Erin Foresman/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA@EPA;CN=Jason Brush/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Paul Jones/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; N=Jason Brush/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Paul Jones/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; N=Paul Jones/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]  
**From:** CN=Tim Vendlinski/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US  
**Sent:** Mon 1/30/2012 5:05:24 PM  
**Subject:** Re: State Wetland Policy and the Delta Conveyance  
[Training syllabus Mitigation Sept 9 no highlights.pdf](#)  
[Bay Delta Conservation Plan](#)  
<http://www.epa.gov/region9/water/watershed/sfbay-delta/index.html>

Hi Rich:

Let's go with 3:30 on Tuesday, FEB 7th for our call.

I'm circulating your message to Karen, Tom, and Erin so I can collect their thoughts and convey them back to you (along with anything I might be able to add to the mix).

They're working more intensively than me on the 401/404/NEPA review aspects of BDCP, and they can provide us with feedback on whether it would be worthwhile to pursue the route you suggest.

Thanks, Tim

**From:** Richard Sumner/COR/USEPA/US  
**To:** Tim Vendlinski/R9/USEPA/US@EPA  
**Date:** 01/27/2012 11:05 AM  
**Subject:** Re: State Wetland Policy and the Delta Conveyance

Hi Tim

Thanks for the quick reply.

How about we chat on Tuesday, Feb 7 at 9am, 11am or 3:30pm?

Here is a bit more background on my interests. I look forward to hearing your advice.

I am interesting in exploring where I can fit in to help Regional staff engage in the technical aspects of 401/404/ NEPA review associated with BDCP activity.

Having worked with Sarvey, I am familiar with the NEPA/404 checkpoint process used for HSR. Some of the glitches in that process were caused by HSR and their contractors not having a clear, relative simple framework showing how technical information is used to inform LEDPA and mitigation determinations. There has been a messy deluge of superfluous and costly information. We are on the path toward reconciling that problem despite a lot of commotion.

Perhaps there is opportunity for me to pitch lessons being learning to R9 program staff working the BDCP. The advice and ideas come with no strings attached.

What I gain from the experience will be used to help craft state wetland policy. That policy must bring value-added benefit to big ventures like, BDCP and HSR. The delivery of that benefit is through training. Attached is a "training curriculum" that I have been working on with partners in CA, including Regional Water Board staff. SFEI and SCCWRP. Paul Jones is in the loop. Some of the examples in the document come from my work with Melissa Scianni on the Willits Bypass Project.

'nuff for now.

Have a fine weekend,

Rich

Richard Sumner  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
200 SW 35th Street  
Corvallis, OR 97333  
(541) 754-4444 -- FAX (541) 754-4716  
sumner.richard@epa.gov

From: Tim Vendlinski/R9/USEPA/US  
To: Richard Sumner/COR/USEPA/US@EPA  
Cc: Jason Brush/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Paul Jones/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Karen Schwinn/R9/USEPA/US@EPA@EPA, Erin Foresman/R9/USEPA/US@EPA@EPA  
Date: 01/26/2012 10:41 AM  
Subject: Re: State Wetland Policy and the Delta Conveyance

Hi Rich:

It's nice to hear from you and to learn that you're working on California's aquatic sites.  
Let's try to schedule a call on Tuesday, 2/7.  
My calendar is relatively open that day, so go ahead and propose 2-3 timeslots that would be convenient for you.

I'm somewhat familiar with the State Wetlands Policy, and have a working knowledge of the Delta Conveyance proposals.

Once we talk, and I have a better sense of your inquiry and information needs, perhaps I'll refer you to others.

As you may know, there's a widespread agreement that the Delta's "plumbing" needs fixing. Just how to do so remains the big question.

The current effort is called the Bay Delta Conservation Plan which is essentially a HCP/NCCP process that would encompass a change in the point-of-diversion of freshwater from the Delta (to more directly access surface waters from the Sacramento River Basin). It's an enormously complex and not entirely intuitive approach to the problem, and the ramifications to 401 and 404 permitting are not clear. An attempt was made to at least align the NEPA/404 checkpoints along the lines of the MOUs for HSR and surface transportation, but DWR and the Corps have not been able to reach a similar accord for BDCP.

Please let me know what materials you'd like me to read on wetlands, monitoring, etc. prior to our call so I'm reasonably cogent.

All the Best, Tim

><(((q>.'-`..,.,.,>(((q>.'-`..,.,.,>(((q>

Tim Vendlinski  
Senior Policy Advisor  
Office of the Director (WTR-1)  
EPA Pacific Southwest Region  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901  
<http://www.epa.gov/region9/water/watershed/sfbay-delta/index.html>  
>vendlinski.tim@epa.gov<  
phone: 415.972.3469  
fax: 415.947.3537